

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OCON, LT

SUBJECT: AAI-SPONSORED AFRICAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

REF: MASERU 1276

1. THE AAI-SPONSORED AFRICAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE IS
SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN MASERU NOV. 29 - DEC. 6.
CONFERENCE IS BEING HOSTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF LESOTHO
AND EMBASSY SHOULD AVOID ANY ACTIVITY THAT COULD BE
CONSTRUED AS INTERFERENCE IN WHAT IS ESSENTIALLY GOL'S
BUSINESS OR COULD BE INTERPRETED AS PATRONIZING.

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2. CURRENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT AS MANY AS 20 CONGRESSMEN COULD BE IN ATTENDANCE IN ADDITION TO 45 OR SO VIP'S FROM PRIVATE AS WELL AS PUBLIC SECTOR. ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE AND AID ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR AFRICA, STANLEY S. SCOTT EXPECT TO ATTEND. IN ADDITION TO SENATOR CLARK, CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION IS EXPECTED TO INCLUDE CHAIRMAN DIGGS.

3. CHAIRMAN DIGGS AND AAI HAVE ARRANGED FOR US MILITARY AIRCRAFT TO TRANSPORT CONGRESSIONAL PARTICIPANTS TO THE CONFERENCE. THE AIRCRAFT WILL LAND AT BLOEMFONTEIN ON NOVEMBER 28. ARRANGEMENTS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE FOR BUS

OR AUTOMOBILE TRANSPORTATION TO LESOTHO. YOUR COMMENTS ON MOST EFFICIENT WAY OF ACCOMPLISHING THIS ARE SOLICITED.

4. THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF LESOTHO HAS INDICATED TO AAI THAT HE HAS WORKED OUT ARRANGEMENTS WITH GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA TO "GET THE US DELEGATION THROUGH" WITHOUT RPT WITHOUT TRAVEL VISAS. AAI HAS ENCOURAGED NON-CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS OF US DELEGATION TO SECURE SOUTH AFRICAN VISAS IN ADVANCE.

5. DESPITE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY OF AAI AND LESOTHO GOVERNMENT, DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES THE FACT THAT EMBASSY MASERU MUST BE PREPARED TO RENDER ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO THE HIGH LEVEL AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS AND HAS TAKEN THE FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY ACTIONS:

A) MASERU: SEPTEL INFORMED POST OF INCREASED COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT NOW EN ROUTE. ONE ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATOR WILL BE PROVIDED ON TDY BASIS. ASSUMING SHE IS WILLING TO ACCEPT TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT, POST AUTHORIZED TO APPOINT MS. ANNA JACOBSON TO TEMPORARY POSITION 00-T-02 FROM NOV. 22 UNTIL COB DEC. 7 TO HELP COPE WITH INCREASED WORKLOAD. FOLLOW PRESCRIBED APPOINTMENT PROCEDURES.

B). PRETORIA: RBFO PRETORIA REQUESTED DETAIL ONE OFFICER TO ASSIST WITH FISCAL OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF CONFERENCE.

C) GABORONE AND MBABANE: IROG'S WILLIAM POPE AND HOWARD PERLOW SHOULD PROCEED TO MASERU TO ARRIVE O/A NOV. 25 TO ASSIST AS NEEDED IN MEETING CONGRESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS. ADMINISTRATIVE ROVER KRAMER WHO WILL THEN BE ON TDY IN GABORONE WILL ALSO BE INSTRUCTED TO ASSIST IN MASERU.

6. PRETORIA, GABORONE AND MBABANE SHOULD ISSUE APPROPRIATE TRAVEL ORDERS. ROVERS SHOULD USE THEIR EXISTING AF/EX TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION. MS. JACOBSON'S APPOINTMENT SHOULD BE FUNDED BY MASERU POST ALLOTMENT WHICH WILL BE ADJUSTED TO REFLECT THESE COSTS.

7. ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED AS PLANS DEVELOP AT THIS END.

8. POST SHOULD REFRAIN FROM BECOMING INVOLVED IN SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF CONFERENCE. MATTER OF R PRFSFNTATION ACTIVITIES WILL BE SUBJECT OF A SEPARATE COMMUNICATION. KISSINGER

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